



Iowa Department of Human Services

Terry E. Branstad
Governor

Kim Reynolds
Lt. Governor

Charles M. Palmer
Director

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1249

DATE: June 4, 2013

TO: Iowa Medicaid Hospitals, Physicians, Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners, and Certified Nurse Midwives

ISSUED BY: Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Elective C-Section Coverage and Payment

EFFECTIVE: July 1, 2013

Pursuant to 2013 Iowa Acts, Senate File 446, the Iowa Legislature has mandated that the Iowa Medicaid program no longer provide coverage of or payment for elective, non-medically necessary Cesarean section (C-section) deliveries. This change was mandated by the Legislature as a cost-containment initiative and is effective July 1, 2013.

The IME currently reimburses hospitals and physicians for C-section deliveries, regardless of the medical necessity. This legislative mandate will eliminate reimbursement to hospitals and physicians for C-sections that were not medically necessary. This proposal aligns with initiatives in this regard being undertaken by the Iowa HealthCare Collaborative, as well as by various individual hospitals and hospital systems.

If you have any questions, please contact the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909, or locally at 515-256-4609 or by email at imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us.